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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

*Attorney Docket No. 086531-0119*

Applicant: Takashi SASAKI et al.  
Title: GAS SEPARATOR  
Appl. No.: 09/417,918  
Filing Date: 10/13/1999  
Examiner: Jennifer A. LEUNG  
Art Unit: 1764

**AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated January 13, 2003 (Paper No. 10).

The amendments presented below are in compliance with the **revised amendment format** permitted in the Notice from the Office of Patent Legal Administration of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office dated January 31, 2003. Thus, the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.121 are waived for amendments made to the claims in this response.

A petition for a two month extension of time and the appropriate fee is submitted with this response to render it timely. However, should additional fees be necessary in connection with the filing of this paper, or if a petition for extension of time is required for timely acceptance of same, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge **Deposit Account No. 19-0741** for any such fees; and applicant(s) hereby petition for any needed extension of time.